



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

JUL 1 1 2008

Mr. Harold Singer
Executive Officer
Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
2501 Lake Tahoe Blvd,
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Dear Mr. Singer:

Thank you for submitting the total maximum daily load (TMDL) to address bedded sediment in Blackwood Creek. The submission was dated April 11, 2008, and was received on April 16, 2008. The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted the TMDL to address sedimentation/siltation in Blackwood Creek, which is identified on the State of California's 2006 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list.

Based on EPA's review, I have concluded the TMDL adequately addresses the pollutant of concern and will, upon implementation, result in attainment of applicable water quality standards. The TMDL includes allocations as needed, takes into consideration seasonal variations and critical conditions, and provides an adequate margin of safety. The Water Board provided adequate opportunities for the public to review and comment on this TMDL. All required elements are adequately addressed; therefore, the TMDL is hereby approved pursuant to Clean Water Act Section 303(d)(2).

The Regional Board's submittal also contains a detailed plan for implementing the TMDL. Current federal regulations do not define TMDLs as containing implementation plans; therefore, EPA is not taking action on the implementation plan provided with the TMDL. EPA generally concurs with the Regional Board's proposed implementation approaches.

The enclosed review discusses the basis for this approval decision. We appreciate the Regional Board's work to complete and adopt the TMDL, and we look forward to our continuing partnership in TMDL development. If you have questions concerning this approval, please call me at (415) 972-3572 or Jacques Landy at (775) 589-5248.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alexis Strauss for".

Alexis Strauss, Director
Water Division

Enclosure